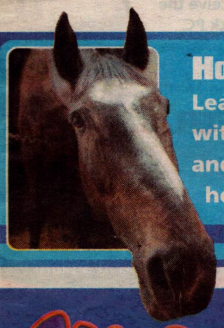
No 471 September 20, 1998

THE FUNDAY TIMES



Horsing around
Learn how to ride with Hinda Hicks and take care of your horse as well!
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Javelin star
Will Steve Backley return from Kuala Lumpur with a gold medal?
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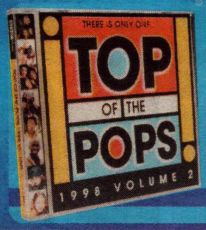

CD fun
Join The Fun Club and this ace CD could be yours
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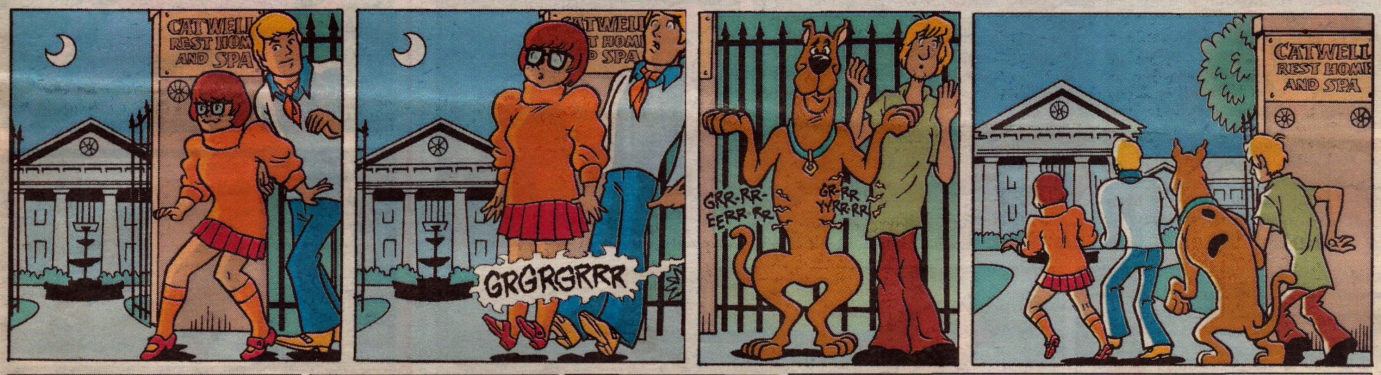
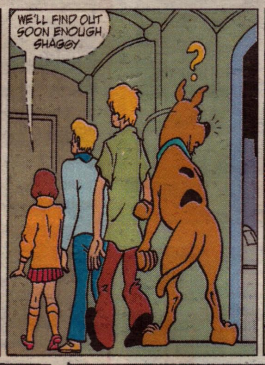
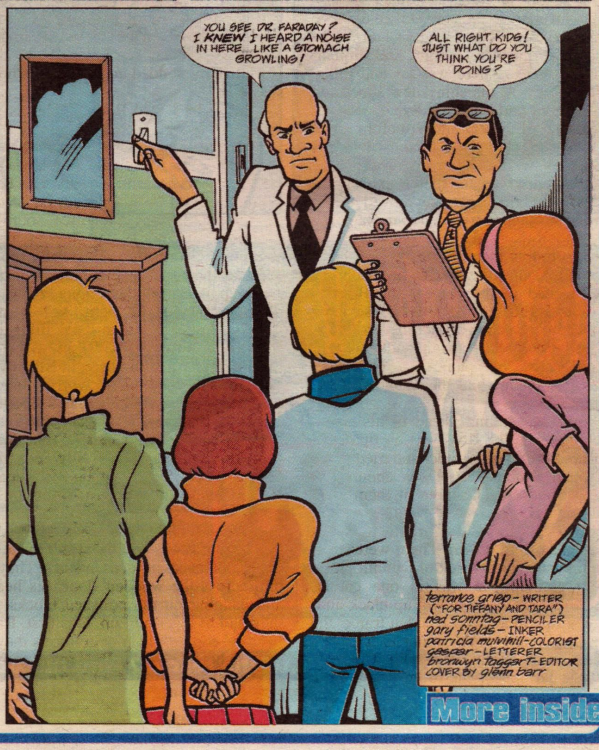
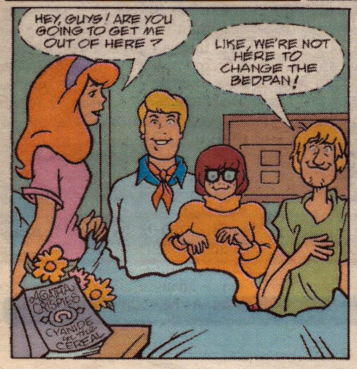
SCOOBY-DOO! in SCOOBY IN THE BOOBY HATCH!

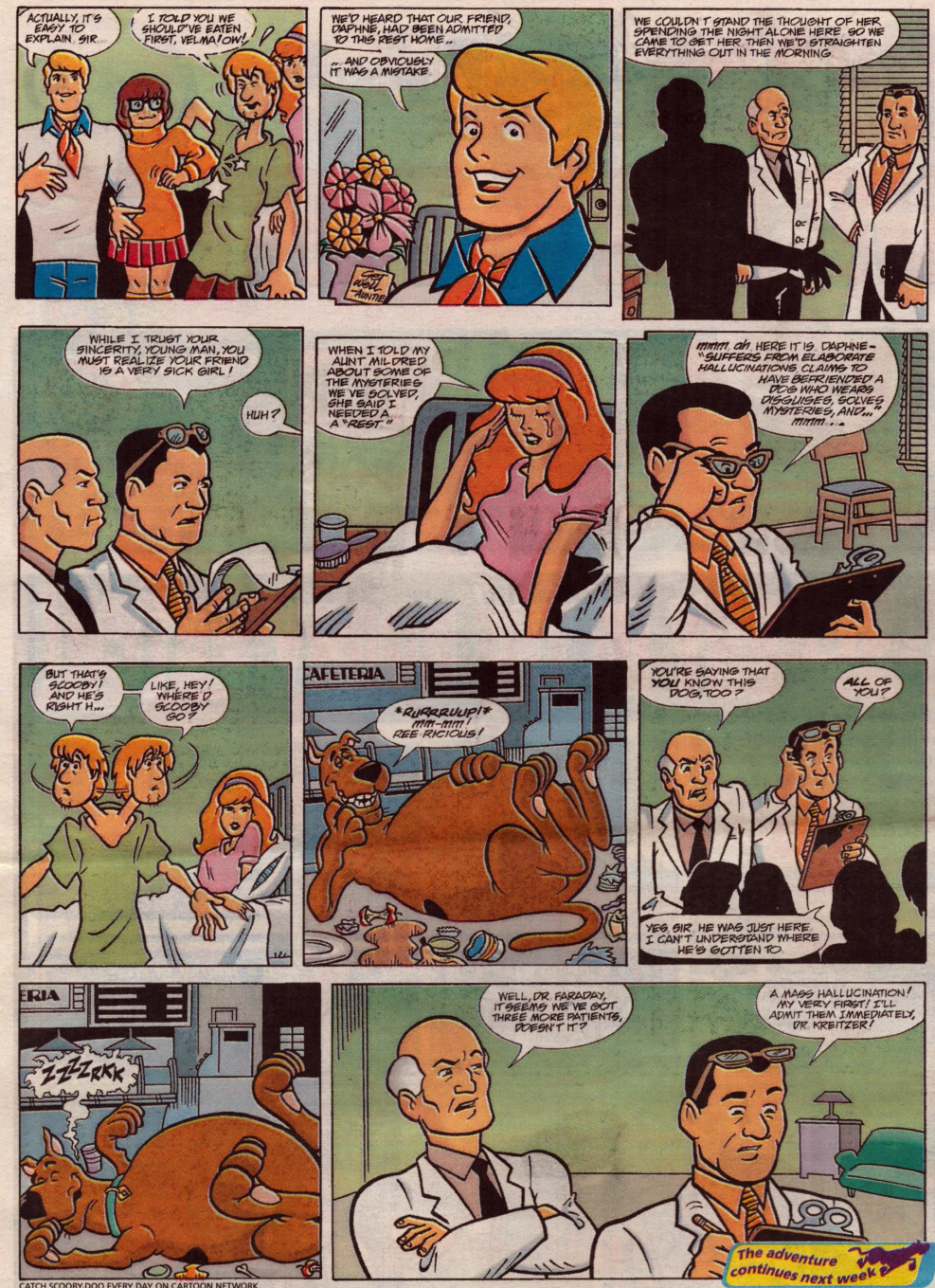








More inside



SCOOBY-DOO AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF HANNA-BARBERA ©1998

CATCH SCOOBY-DOO EVERY DAY ON CARTOON NETWORK

SCOOBY-DOO! STAR!

Funday winner Joanne Salway, age 13, enjoyed a great day out in London last month. As well as a slap-up lunch at a top London restaurant, Joanne was whisked off to the Warner Bros store on Regent Street for a VIP shopping spree. But the highlight of the day was meeting Scooby-Doo artist Mark Stock, at Warner Bros' headquarters. Joanne was the big winner in our Scooby-Doo drawing competition, and Mark gave Joanne some tips and trade secrets on how to draw Scooby and the gang. "I really enjoyed myself and learned a whole lot about drawing cartoons," Joanne told us. "My great day out in London is an experience I won't forget in a hurry!"

Send f-mail, cartoons and competition answers to us at: The Fun Club, PO Box 15, Wetherby LS23 7TL

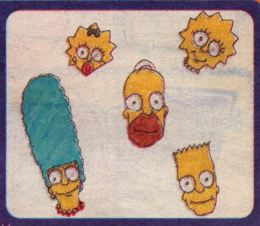
THE FUNDAY TIMES THE RED HOUSE

f-mail

The star letter will receive the Tiger Deluxe Ultra Pack PC, essential for aspiring scholars, and the runners-up will receive the zappy Brain Shift, a fast-moving memory game! TIGER

Dear f-mail,
One morning my mum went out to the back garden and saw a strange thing in a plant pot. It was about 10 centimetres long, three centimetres in diameter and brown in colour. My mum came into the house very annoyed, saying that she thought the dog across the road had done its business in the pot. "How on Earth could it do it in the plant pot?" she said furiously. My brother began to laugh behind her back. He looked very guilty. Then my brother said: "It's a banana." You see my brother hates fruit and that day the banana that my mum gave him ended up in the plant pot.
Shonah McConnell, age 12, Backwell

Dear f-mail,
My favourite TV show is The Simpsons. I think The Simpsons is great and I watch it every night at 7pm on Sky One. My sister says that I am Simpsons crazy! Last year me and my family went to Las Vegas for a holiday. When I was watching TV I saw an advertisement about visiting a house exactly like the one The Simpsons live in. People can visit and have a tour around it. The next day we set off for the house. It was bright yellow and inside it was even brighter. We went through house from top to bottom and saw everything from Bart's Treehouse to Homer's giant underpants in the closet of his bedroom. We all enjoyed our great day in The Simpsons' house!
Jenna Robertson, age 12, Stockton-on-Tees

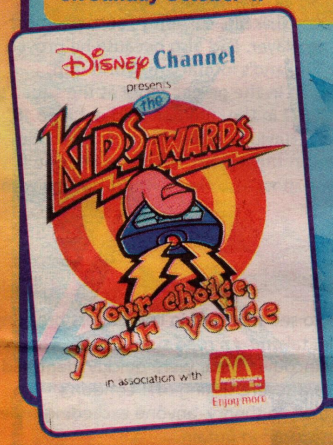


Dear f-mail,
I have a riddle for you:
I have two hands but cannot catch.
I have a face but no mouth to eat.
I have no nose to smell.
I am moving all the time but remain in the same place.
Who am I?
Pavan Shah, age 9, Thornton Heath
Find the answer on page 10 – Ed.

The FUN Club

Star treatment

Did you vote for all your favourites in the Disney Channel Kids Awards? Well, the waiting is almost over – the winners will be announced at a star-studded party in London on Sunday October 4.



One lucky reader and a guardian will win two VIP tickets to the show (transport included) to see stars like Cleopatra, Stephen Gately and Steps. And the best is still to come, because before the show you'll get to have a bite to eat with the lads from OTT.

Win

To win this star-studded prize, tell us Posh Spice's real name.

Answers to The Fun Club address, on page 2, by September 30

Toon-tastic action

Fancy winning a fantastic **trolley dash** around a Warner Bros. store? We've teamed up with Milky Way to whisk one reader and a guardian to London (transport and accommodation included) to grab £500 of Warner Bros. goodies in one minute, and we'll even throw in a month's supply of Milky Way!

Fifty runners-up will each get a Milky Way prize pack containing an exclusive Milky Way/Cartoon Network watch, a T-shirt and cap, and a month's supply of Milky Way.

And don't worry, if you're not one of our winners, you can still play Match and Win on special Milky Way wrappers to scoop loads of other prizes, including more Warner Bros. trolley dashes.

To enter, tell us the name of Dastardly's four-legged partner in crime.

Answers to The Fun Club address, on page 2, by September 30

news

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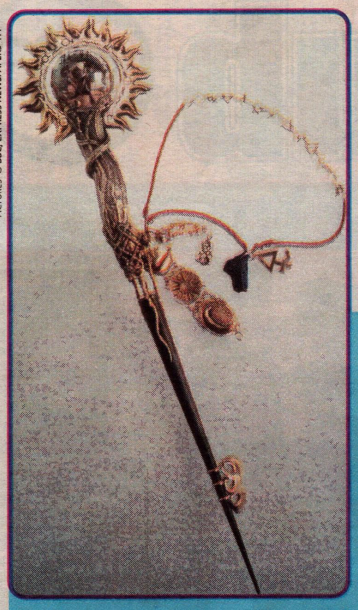
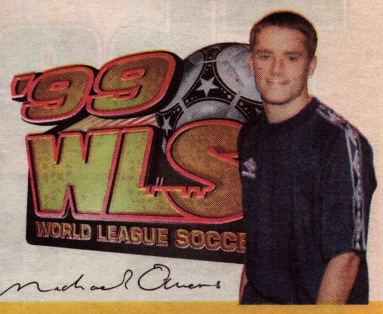




Feel the magic

The Merlin Mystery is not just a story book with intricate colourful illustrations – it's also a cunning puzzle that could lead you to a stunning prize! This valuable magic wand, made from gold, silver and bronze goes to the first reader who solves the book's spell. "The whole family can help find the solution," creator Jonathan Gunson told us. "If you get to know the puzzle, various patterns start to appear. It's not that's it's all that difficult either, there's just an awful lot to it." Jonathan predicts that the solution will take about one year to crack. As well as the wand, a cash prize fund of £100,000 is also up for grabs – and for every book sold, the cash fund grows. We're going to get reading!

Owen goal

Soccer's super-kid Michael Owen launched his own computer game, World League Soccer 99, at London's big computer games show last week. The manufacturer teamed up with Michael because the young Liverpool striker is currently football's most exciting player, and also because he proved to be England's interactive World Cup champion in the games room at the squad's French HQ in the summer. Michael, age 18, told us: "Having played most of the footie games on the market, WLS was the one I enjoyed most – so that's why it got my vote."

Prepare for a family feud

Get set for Microsoap the zany new comedy series about the ups and downs of family life. Joe and Emily are brother and sister and they are desperately trying to hang on to normality after their parents' divorce.

Paul Terry, who played James in James and the Giant Peach, plays Joe. "Joe's like me, mischievous and really annoying to his sister. Joe and his sister get on but they hate each other sometimes."

Being Emily in Microsoap is Rebecca Hunter's first major part, she is looking forward to seeing herself on TV. She says: "I won't believe it until I switch it on and see myself. It will be ever-so-strange."

Paul, age 12, briefly explains the Microsoap story. "Mum and dad have split up and mum finds a new boyfriend. Mum and the boyfriend get on but their children don't! Mum has got two and he has three."

Paul and Rebecca didn't know each other at the start of filming but are now great mates, having spent five months together on set.

Rebecca, age 17, admits: "During the first week we were a bit wary, but we got to know each other easily. If we hadn't got on so well it would have been horrible."

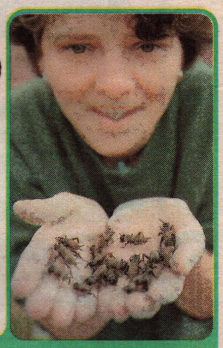
The whole crew had lots of fun making the new series. The set was full of games and jokes.

Rebecca tells The Funday Times about one particular scene they were filming with the family dog. "Paul and I were eating Toblerones but half way through shooting the dog started nibbling the other end of one! It's actually the take they used!" she laughs.

Microsoap starts Monday September 30 on BBC1 at 4.35. You can also catch it on Disney Channel from October 24 at 10am.

Out of line

Canadian traffic police were stunned to see scores of in-line skaters breaking the speed limit when they studied film taken by a road-side camera. The smoking-wheeled skaters, from the Vancouver area, were quickly identified and given speeding tickets – as well as a severe ticking-off! London's Metropolitan police have confirmed that, in theory, anyone exceeding speed limits while skating could also be prosecuted in Britain.

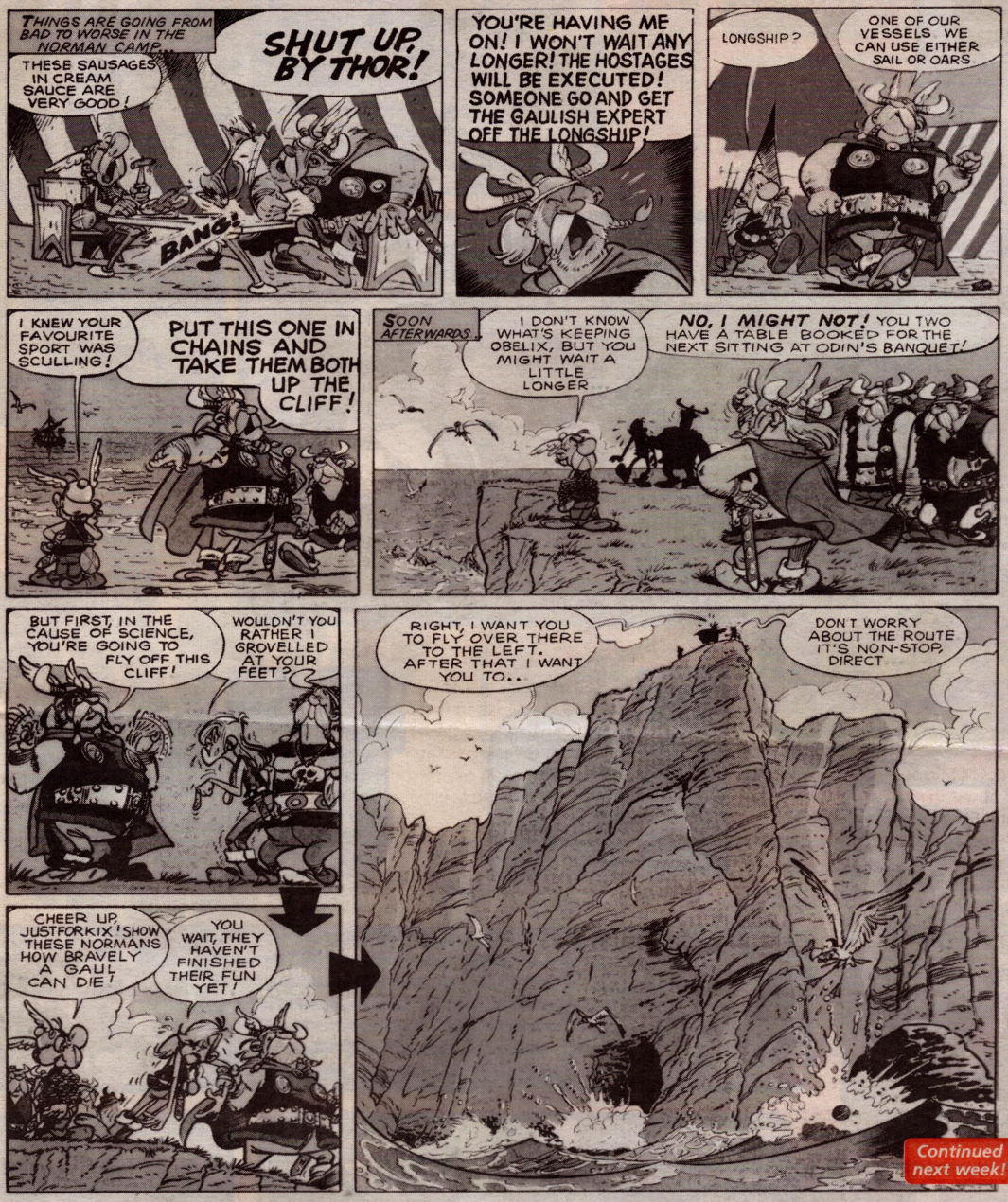


Having a field day

Conservationists were jumping for joy as 3,000 rare field crickets were released into the wild at secret locations around the country last week. The chirpy creatures had been bred in captivity from just six collected by London Zoo, in an exciting initiative to to give a much-needed boost to the natural population. Paul Pearce-Kelly, the zoo's curator of invertebrates, told us: "It's fantastic to be releasing so many of these crickets because there are so few out there at the moment. The whole process has been a real success story from start to finish." The Funday Times wishes them luck.

Asterix and the Normans

©DARGAUD ÉDITEUR PARIS 1967/HODDER & STOUGHTON 1978 BY GOSCINNY AND UDERZO



Continued next week!

Jarvis

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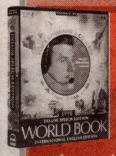
LineOne FUNDAY on line

funday.times@sunday-times.co.uk



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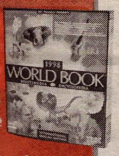


I like skating, especially extreme skating But there aren't many skate parks in my local area, so I don't know of many places that I can skate. It would be good if there could be at least one skate park in every borough. I think councils should try and have facilities for the majority and the minority.
Daniel Holder

My brother James and I went up the bell tower of Derby Cathedral today After 189 steps we passed the 10 bells and reached the roof We were even higher than the birds. James looked for the River Derwent down below and I looked for Pride Park (5km away) where Derby County Football team play We were ready to come down, when the weather changed and we heard thunder!
Michael Green

Recently, we won a trip to BT's Goonhilly Earthstation in Cornwall. It was brilliant! We saw the control centre, several of the 40 satellites dishes and spent time in the visitors' centre We also made a telephone call by satellite, our message travelled more than 44,000 miles in a second! The highlight of the visit was climbing up the third satellite dish, and seeing how it worked
Caroline Blowers, Caroline Hobbis and Louise Thorn

Visit our fun website www.lineone.net

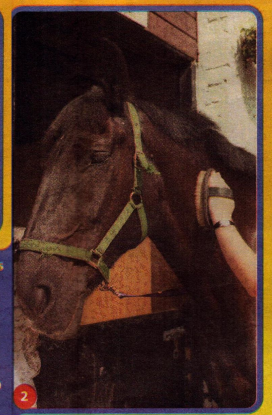
more info call 0800 111210

In the saddle

Riding a horse can be great fun, although it's not as easy at it looks. So when chart star Hinda Hicks told us she was a bit of an expert, Dave Coombs took her along to Wimbledon Village Stables to put her through her paces.

1

Horses need cleaning and grooming just like us! A full groom involves cleaning the horse's hooves as well as brushing its coat and mane.



2

Wet sponges, as well as special brushes are needed to groom a horse. Always use a separate sponge to clean the nose and eyes.

The stables must be clean, to keep the horses healthy. As well as the daily muck outs, a quick "skip out" is often needed to remove droppings. Hinda had to do just that before she could get started!

3

4

Now for the smelly bit! Hinda also had to carry her horse's droppings off to the muck heap in a wheelbarrow, where she tipped it onto the big pile.

The equipment that a horse wears for you to ride it is called the tack and you'll find it all stored inside a stable's tack room. Hooks and racks are fitted to the walls to keep the tack tidy.

5

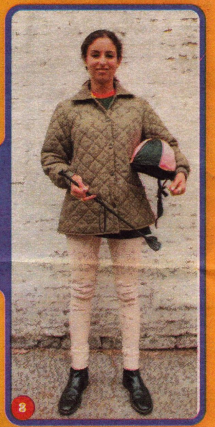
6

Tack is made mainly from leather, so it is expensive. It's important to look after it properly, not just to make it last, but also to keep it comfortable for the horse to wear.

7

Putting on the bridle and saddle can be tricky, especially if your horse decides it would rather play a game! It won't take long before you know when the saddle, bit and noseband are on correctly.

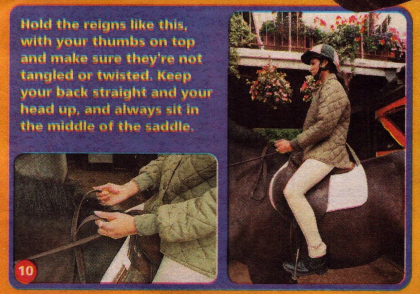
It's important to wear the right gear – a proper hat that fits you and boots with a small heel are essential. You'll be most comfortable in a pair of jodhpurs, plus a loose top with long sleeves, and a pair of riding gloves.



8

9

Hinda is a bit of an expert when it comes to getting on and off. It can be tricky the first time though, and you might need help. But once you know how to grip the reigns and place your foot in the stirrup, you'll be onto the horse in no time.



10

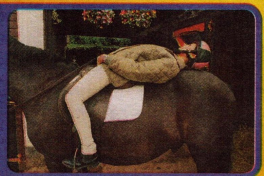
Hold the reigns like this, with your thumbs on top and make sure they're not tangled or twisted. Keep your back straight and your head up, and always sit in the middle of the saddle.

12

Exercises are a great way to familiarise yourself with your horse, and they'll help you feel more relaxed and confident. This one is called round-the-world, and it involves turning right around in the saddle.

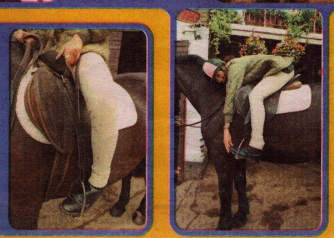
11

You might find the saddle and the stirrups need adjusting to suit you. Ask someone to help you with this because you can only use one hand the other one has got to keep hold of the reigns!



13

They're not as uncomfortable as they look! Leaning forward, backwards and touching your toes, while in the saddle, are all simple exercises.



During a first lesson you'll learn the signals to keep your horse under control. Hinda's horse, Magic, couldn't wait to get going, and it wasn't long before they were walking out of the stable yard together.

14

After our day out, Magic had earned his dinner. It might not look, or smell, very appetising, but horses enjoy their diet of horse nuts, oats and sugarbeet and it keeps them healthy too!

15

Magic and the equipment Hinda Hicks used to ride him was provided by Wimbledon Village Stables 0181-946 8579. The stables run private and group lessons for beginners and novices, as well as organising escorted hacks for experienced riders.

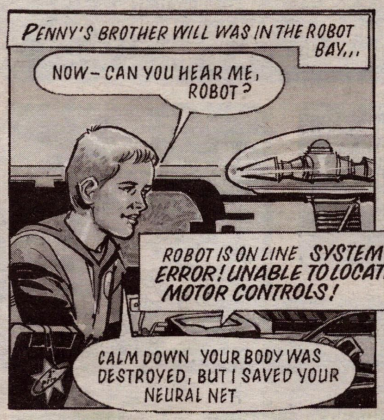
To find a stables near you, get a copy of Where To Ride (£6.95) – it lists all the British Horse Society approved establishments throughout the UK and Ireland.

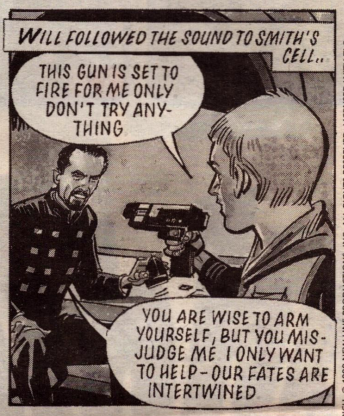
Hinda says

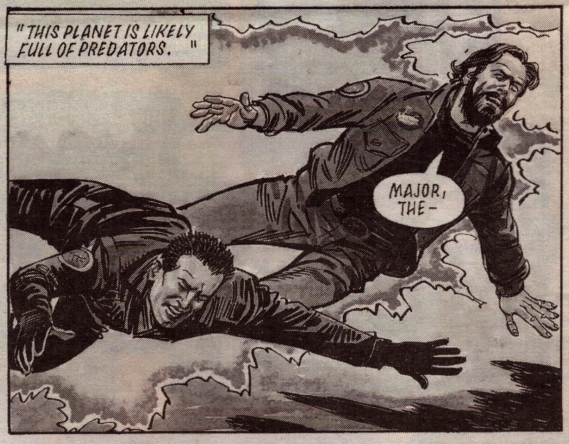
"Owning a horse is a huge responsibility. Getting up in the morning to feed and clean it is also a lot of hard work so I'm actually glad I never had a horse of my own. You've got to remember that it's a 24-hour thing. So, if you're not there to look after it, someone else must be there for you. It's much better to go to a stables. I started from scratch and had lessons. After the first few, I used to stay and help out at the stables. Sometimes I'd spend the whole day there, and everything I learned helped me appreciate riding a lot more. I hadn't ridden for ages until recently, when I was lucky enough to get to ride along a lovely beach in Tunisia. That was brilliant!

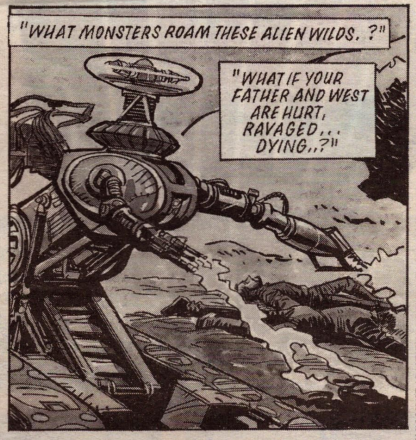
PICTURES: ANNE AIREY

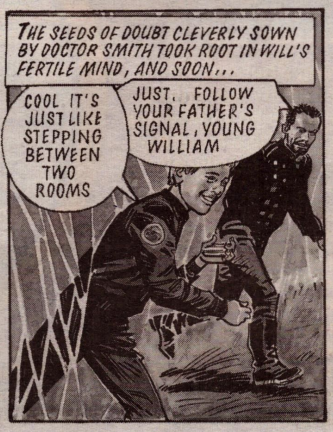
THE JUPITER 2 HAS CRASH-LANDED ON A STRANGE PLANET PEPPERED WITH OPENING AND CLOSING PORTALS TO THE FUTURE. PROFESSOR ROBINSON AND MAJOR WEST HAVE ENTERED A PORTAL IN SEARCH OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL NEEDED TO POWER THE CRAFT'S ENGINES, LEAVING DOCTOR SMITH UNDER LOCK AND KEY...

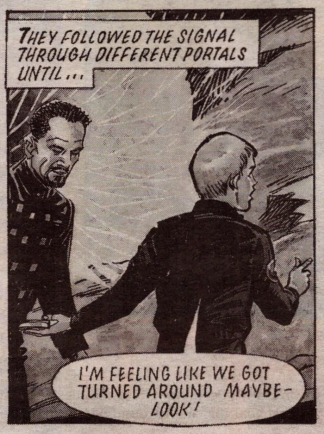












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Continues next week

Is Doctor Smith to be trusted? Catch the next instalment of Lost In Space next week

CREATE A CARTOON

Here's your chance to write your own cartoon strip!

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LIFT OFF

SINGLE

THE RIGHT TIME Ultra ★★★★●

Hooray! Ultra are back on track again, with another top single, following the hiccup of the slightly weak Say It Once. The Right Time is a stomping single, from the boy band who don't just look good – but play instruments and write all their own tunes too! This one was penned by James and Michael, and it's got a superb, catchy chorus that should ensure the lads are back near the top of the charts again soon. The Right Time is also a taste of the fab debut Ultra album that's on its way. Watch this space!

BOOK

VITAL STATISTICS ★★★●●

If you're a Big Breakfast viewer, you'll know what this book's all about. Vital Statistics is one of the show's funniest bits, in which Johnny Vaughan amazes viewers, and his co-host Denise Van Outen, with bizarre facts and figures. Well now they've been compiled into this handy little hardback, along with some great colour pictures of Johnny and Denise. The only let down here is the hefty £5.99 price tag – so try and get someone to buy it for you!

GAME

CONNECTIONS Tiger Electronics ★★★★★

This is much like another four-in-a-row game, but it's four times cooler! There are no coloured counters to drop into the top – because it's all done with coloured lights and snazzy sound effects. (There are no bits and pieces to loose, which is a bonus.) You can play against the computer, or with an opponent. The machine even tells you who goes first, and if you reach a stalemate – the crowd howls at your poor performance. Great fun – we're addicted!

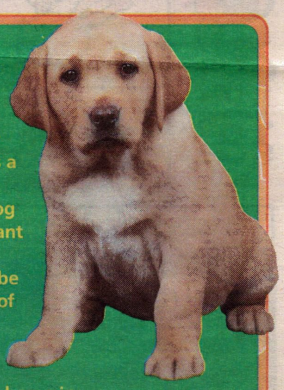
DAGSY DOG

with vet Catherine Morganti

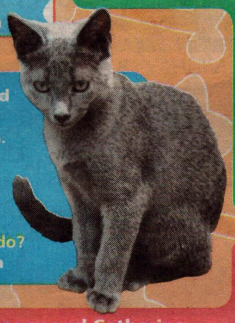
Woof, woof!
Send in your questions and stories about your pets. Catherine and I are here to help.

Dear Dagsy and Catherine,
Could you tell me a bit about puppy walking?
Jessica Smart, Streatham

Guide Dogs for the Blind has a scheme where you can foster a guide dog in your home from the age of six weeks until it is a year old. After this time the dog is transferred from your home to a guide dog training unit. If you want to apply for puppy fostering you need to be an adult over the age of 18 or in a family. The aim of this scheme is to give the puppy a safe, stable and loving home in which it can be raised and socialised to people, before it goes on to be trained as a guide dog. If you would like more information you can contact the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association on **0118 983 5555.**



Dear Dagsy and Catherine,
This is my poem.
Roses are red
My cat is blue
He scratches
the carpet –
So what shall I do?
Maddie Hickish



Dear Dagsy and Catherine,
Do horses really like sugar?
Amy Lucas, Brighton

Like most of us, horses have a sweet tooth and will show much enthusiasm for sugar cubes or sweets. Unfortunately, like us, they shouldn't be given too many as too much sugar is bad for their teeth and will affect the digestion of their food, potentially causing colic. A carrot is a much healthier sweet snack to give them!

Answers by: Catherine Morganti, Simon Kent

If you have a question for me or you want to send in a cool fact, write to:

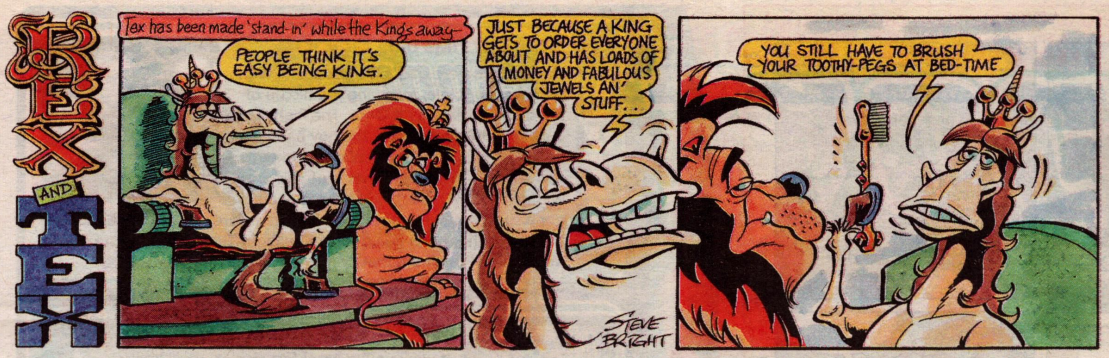
The Funday Times
Dagsy Dog
PO Box 495
London E1 9XW

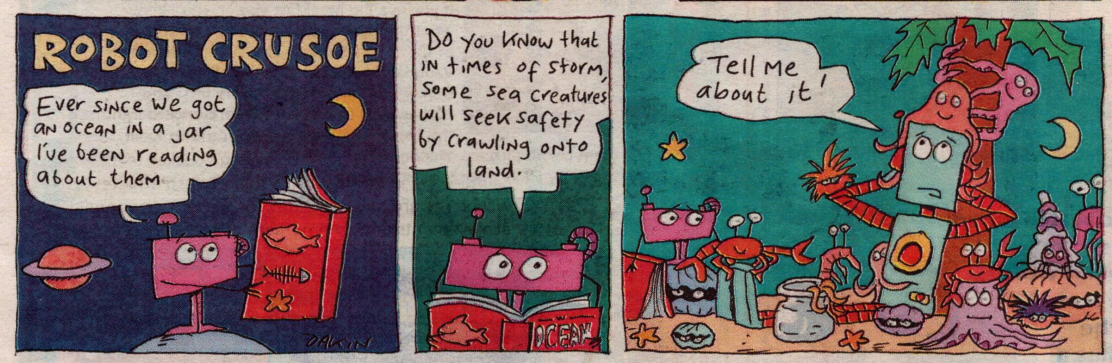
The Blue Cross, one of Britain's largest animal welfare charities, has three animals' hospitals, two veterinary clinics, 11 adoption centres and two equine centres nationally. Last year the charity found homes for more than 8,000 animals and treated more than 60,000 pets at its hospitals.

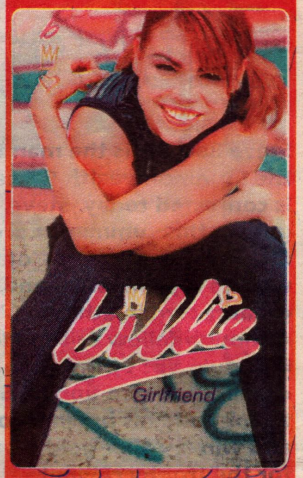
ILLUSTRATIONS: PAUL CEMMICK

PICTURES: ARDEA

Write to Dagsy and Catherine at their London address!



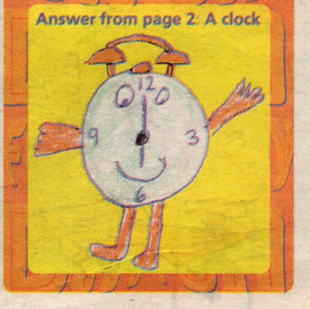




Win an exclusive Billie cushion, as featured in her latest video

Meet some green-fingered kids and find out their millennium secret

Answer from page 2: A clock



THE FUNDAY TIMES
sport

Steve Backley

Steve Backley is the man to watch when the Commonwealth Games' javelin title is contested today. Steve, who won gold in this summer's European Championships, is one of the world's top throwers and has a great record in athletics. Although fellow Briton Mick Hill could put up a strong challenge, we're tipping Steve to continue his brilliant form and win another gold medal for the trophy cabinet.

- Steve's main rival is Czech superstar Jan Zelezny – they have had some great battles, but the two men are good friends
- He has thrown the javelin further than any other British athlete in history
- Steve stands 1.98m tall and is 29 years old – he'll be 30 in February
- He competes for the Cambridge Harriers Athletics Club
- Steve won his first title when he was crowned European Champion at the age of 18. He has won a string of honours, but says his aim is to win Olympic gold

sport news

Future stars

More than 50 awards will be presented on September 28, in London, at the Wash & Go Sport Stars of the Future Awards. Wash & Go has joined forces with national charity SportsAid, to create an award scheme to highlight British sporting talent. With the help of past grant recipients, Steve Backley and Sharron Davies, the awards were launched alongside Thomas Jaeggi, member of the UK Junior Curling team, and Emma Thomas, the Surrey Women's cricket team captain. Able-bodied and disabled British athletes will be rewarded with grants for their tremendous achievements and commitment over the last year.

Gridlock!

Formula One star Michael Schumacher produced one of the best results of his life by winning the Italian Grand Prix. With two races to go, he's level on points with Mika Hakkinen, but Michael looks most likely to end the year as champion.

Pat push

Pat Rafter produced a great display to win the US Open for the second year in a row. Pat defeated fellow Australian Mark Philippoussis. He's now determined to take Pete Sampras's number one spot.

Trendy gear

Once worn by comic book hero, Roy of the Rovers and even the mighty Manchester United, Gola sportswear has now launched a new range of trendy togs for the autumn in Woolworths stores across the country.

Fifteen lucky readers will get kitted out with a Gola tracksuit, top, hat, socks and school bag. And if you're not a winner you can still look out for the gear in your local Woolworths.

To win, tell us the name of Manchester United's home ground.

Answers to The Fun Club address, on page 2, by September 30. Please include your chest, waist and foot size.

WOOLWORTHS

PICTURES: DEREK ROWE PHOTOS LTD, EMPICS

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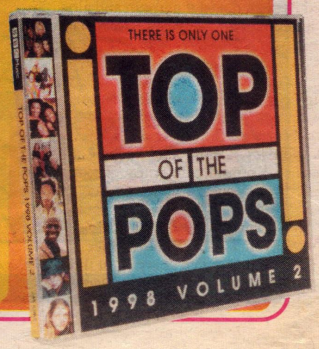
Send to: The Fun Club, PO Box 15, Wetherby, LS23 7TL 471

Top sounds

The first 25 people to join The Fun Club this week by telephone and the first 25 to join by post will each receive a copy of this great new double CD, available in the shops now.

Top of the Pops 98 Volume 2 has all your favourite hits from artists like Steps, Robbie Williams, Billie and All Saints and is sure to be a big hit with all chart-wise readers.



LUCKY NUMBER

Catch three hours of The Incredible Hulk on Fox Kids' Weekend Stack. When Bruce Banner gets really angry a terrifying transformation occurs. He turns in to the Hulk – a huge green-skinned monster with the strength of a thousand men. Sunday, September 20 at midday.

189765

If this is your lucky membership number, please write to The Fun Club address on page 2 (letting us know your age and size) and win a fantastic Fox Kids jacket.